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Message Text

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44
ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SSO-00 L-02 SP-02 DRC-01

/063 W
---------- 113911
R 231452Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2552
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 22412

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, UN, LA
SUBJECT: LAO PRIME MINISTER'S PLANS

REF: PARIS 21949 (LIMDIS)

1. MANGKHALA TELEPHONED EMBOFF THAT SOUVANNA WAS SUFFICIENTLY ENCOURAGED BY HIS RECOVERY SO THAT HE WAS ANXIOUS TO RETURN TO LAOS. HE HAS RESERVATIONS ON THE OCTOBER 10 AIR FRANCE FLIGHT WHICH GOES DIRECTLY TO VIENTIANE' AND EXPECTS TESTS STARTING SEPTEMBER 27 TO CONFIRM THE WISDOM OF THESE PLANS.

2. PRIME MINISTER'S DAUGHTER MOUNE GAVE A LESS OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF COURSE OF SOUVANNA'S STATE OF HEALTH THAN THAT OF MANGKHALA OR THE IMPRESSIONS OF EMBOFF OR BASIS OF BRIEF VISIT (REFTEL PARA 3). MOUNE HAD ATTEMPTED TO WORK WITH SOUVANNA ON HIS MEMOIRS AND OTHER PERSONAL PROJECTS, BUT FOUND THAT HE TIRED VERY RAPIDLY AND WAS USUALLY UNABLE TO CONCENTRATE ON SUCH MENTAL WORK FOR MORE THAN 20 MINUTES OR SO AT A TIME. SHE FELT THAT HE WAS STILL UNABLE TO TAKE ON ANYTHING RESEMBLING THE TASK OF HANDLING EVEN THE MOST IMPORTANT AND URGENT MATTERS
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OF STATE. IT WAS LESS A SITUATION OF CONSCIOUS HUSBANDING OF HIS STRENGTH THAN THE CONTINUING LACK OF ENERGY.

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SHE FEARED THAT A PREMATURE RETURN WOULD RESULT IN A
CONVALESCENCE IN LUANG PRABANG WHERE HE WOULD ALSO BE
SUBJECTED TO NEARLY CONSTANT EXPOSURE TO SOUPHANOUVONG
WHO WOULD INFLUENCE THE WEAKENED SOUVANNA AND ALSO RETARD
HIS FULL RECOVERY BY PROVOKING TENSIONS.
IRWIN

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NNN

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